

2771-515-CIP

Remarks

Claims 1-25 are pending. Of these, claims 1-2, 7, and 10-15 have been previously amended. Claims 3-5 and 9 are in their original form. Claims 16-25 have been previously withdrawn.

Also, claims 6, 8, 11 and 12 have been currently amended. Claim 6 (as amended) now recites as an end-capping reagent "bis(trimethylsiloxy)methylsilane." Claim 8 (as amended) depends from claim 2 instead of depending from claim 1 and further recites the clarifying language "the combination of." Claim 11 (as amended) now recites a missing "comma" between "(TFSA)" and "bis(trimethylsiloxy)methylsilane." Claim 12 (as amended) depends from claim 2 instead of depending from claim 1. No new matter (35 U.S.C. § 132) has been added by these claim amendments.

The Office Action mailed May 2, 2006 imposes an election of species requirement with respect to a species of an "end-capping reagent" for the reasons noted at pages 2-3 of the Office Action. The Office Action also imposes the requirement of identification of the claims that "read" on the elected species of the "end capping reagent."


In response, Applicants elect "bis(trimethylsiloxy)methylsilane" as the species of the "end capping reagent." Claims 1-25 read on the elected species.

Applicants reserve their right to request rejoinder of the withdrawn claims and further amend withdrawn claim 21 to recite a "period" instead of a "semi-colon" at the end of the claim for proper claim format.

Prompt and favorable consideration on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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